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COULTER'S WHITEFISH.

In a recent article on *Coregonus coulteri* (COPEIA No. 45), Dr. Kendall overlooks an obscure second record of the occurrence of the species in the Columbia basin (Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus. XXXVI, p. 430). The specimens there referred to were collected by the writer at Diamond Lake, Stevens Co., Wash., in June, 1894. It was observed at the time that kingfishers were catching a slender, silvery fish from near the surface of the lake, and by firing at the birds with a rifle, they were on several occasions made to drop the fish within reach. These were Coulter's whitefish. None was seen in the shallow water near shore, there was no boat at hand, and consequently nothing more was learned of the species. Some of these fishes, measuring 127 millimeters in length, were about as large as the birds could well manage. These specimens and likewise some of those taken by Dr. Eigenmann appear to be fishes of the year, and it is possible that the adults of the species may reach a much larger size. Indeed it is not improbable that the species may be a deep water form of some food value. The Bureau of Fisheries has lately learned of the presence of several undescribed species of whitefish in western waters. Some of these are good food fishes, and it is possible that their range may be profitably extended by artificial means. An

investigation of these species has been started, and it is no doubt worth while that it should be extended.

J. O. SNYDER,
Stanford University, Calif.

SHUFELDT'S NEW MUD MINNOW.

In the July number of *Aquatic Life* Dr. R. W. Shufeldt boldly adds another synonym to *Umbra pygmæa.* One is obliged to read his entire article, which is unnecessarily voluminous, to the end, where the new name *Umbra pygmæa bilineata* is found. As Shufeldt neglects to select a type, a custom almost universal in these days among naturalists, we shall be obliged to help him out by indicating No. 16, 896, U. S. N. M. from "Trib. of Chesapeake Bay" as such. Apparently this new form is suggested chiefly on its supposed color characters. It is alleged to differ in having but 2 wide dark lengthwise broad bands, while in *U. pygmæa* there are ten, a dozen, or more, narrow dark lengthwise lines. On a previous page, however, Shufeldt admits that "the fish changes its coloration to a wonderful degree when placed in alcohol and other preservative fluids," and also that the living fishes vary widely in color. I found that our living mud minnow exhibits great extremes in variety of color, not only such patterns as Shufeldt mentions, but all sorts of intermediate designs. Also some examples may appear nearly uniform blackish, and others grayish or whitish, though I have not yet found an albino. Now these varieties may even occur in the same stream, pool or mud-hole. Some of these forms are doubtless affected by the condition of the water, as in the cedar-stained streams of our coastal regions fishes are always darker, or even nearly black.

Besides the type Dr. Shufeldt mentioned he examined many examples in the United States National Museum from Eastern Maryland, Laurel (Md.), Chain Bridge (D. C.), and Long Island (Lake Pat-